PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#9 Pref 10/4/09

In re application of

Yoshihiro KATSUMATA and
Hideya KINOSHITA

Rule 53(b) Divisional Application of
U.S. Appln. No.: 09/630,716 Group Art Unit:1711

Confirmation No.: Not Assigned Examiner:

Filed: November 13, 2001

For: INK WASTAGE ABSORBER AND INK SUPPORTER

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert before the first line the sentence:

A1 This is a divisional of Application No. 09/630,716 filed August 2, 2000, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 5-10 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please enter the following amended claims: